

2 5 1 PATTERNS

UKULELE

LOW G

A good way to start improvising over 2,5,1 progressions is to use melodic phrases or patterns that fit well over the chords.

The basic formula is to play chord tones on the strong (down) beats of the bar and use notes of the scale (the C scale in this case) between on the up beats. Chord tones or chromatic notes can also be used on up beats. A pattern that only uses chord tones would just be an arpeggio.

In the patterns below, over the Dm7 chord they are just chord tones (CT) but on the G7 some passing notes (PN) included.

Learn this and other patterns as many keys as possible and try it in songs like Mack the Knife, Autumn leaves and even the Blues Chords. In addition to pusing on 2,5,1 progressions this pattern will also work over a simple 5,1 progression. Try writing your own pattern!

4/4 Dm7 G7 C^b

CT CT CT CT CT PN CT PN CT CT

4/4 Gm7 G7 F^b

CT CT CT CT CT PN CT PN CT CT

4/4 Cm7 F7 B^b6

CT CT CT CT CT PN CT PN CT CT

4/4 Fm7 B^b7 E^b6

CT CT CT CT CT PN CT PN CT CT

UKULELE
LOW G

MACK THE KNIFE

2.5,1 EDITION

KURT WEILL & BERTOLT BRECHT

SWING ♩ = 126

A

C⁶ C⁶ Dm⁷ Dm⁷

C IONIAN D DORIAN

HERE'S OUR PATTERN !

5 Dm⁷ G⁷ C⁶ C⁶

G MIXOLYDIAN

B

9 Am⁷ A^o Dm⁷ Dm⁷

A AEOLIAN A DIMINISHED

AND AGAIN

13 Dm⁷ Dm⁷ G⁷ C⁶ C^o Dm⁷ G⁷

Dm⁷